THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As part of the National Action Plan for Tourism the Government intends to make available multi-lingual tourist information service in a phased manned in various tourist outlets such as hotels, airports and tourist offices.

Construction of Cable Cart Route Between Guwahati and Umananda

1700. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration for construction of a cable cart route between Guwahati and Umananda Island in Assam;

(b) whether the administrative and financial sanction has been given by the Government ; and

(c) if not, since when has the proposal been pending for approval with the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Vayudoot Service to Tuticorin

1701. SHRI M. VINCENT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 640 given in the Rajya Sabha on 5th May, 1992 and state :

(a) whether the Vayudoot service in the Tamil Nadu will be extended to Tuticorin during the current year itself ; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Yes, Sir. Vayudoot has started its servces to Tuticorin on the route Madras-Tuticorin-Madras.

(b) Does not arise.

Steep fall in Number of People travelling by Air India

1702. SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a steep fill in the number of persons travelling by Air India, recently ;

(b) whether this is mainly because of serious deterioration in the quality of services and maintenance of Aircraft run by Air India ;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor ; and

(d) what steps are being taken to improve passenger services and the image of our International Airline ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir. During the period January—March, 1992 Air India carried 27% more passengers compared to corresponding period last year.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Air India has decided to have a more modern and younger fleet in the coming years. Corporate strategy has been finalised to upgrade the areas of consumer contact, provision of comprehensive package of services to the customer and increasing the efficiency of operation.

Inland Container Depots and Container Freight Stations

@1703. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:
SHRI ASHOK NATH VARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to allow the private sector

@Previously Unstarred Question 1082, transferred from the 6th May, 1992.